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NOTES

THE total membership of the N. E. A. for 1896 (Buffalo meeting) is 9048.

THE "Bibliography of Secondary Education," by Professor Elmer E. Brown, will appear in the February number, the delay being due to the unusual care necessary in reading the proof.

THE SCHOOL REVIEW is hereafter to be the official organ of publication for the Michigan Schoolmasters' Club. The proceedings of the November meeting, at Ann Arbor, will appear in an early number.

English in the High Schools is the title of a valuable pamphlet issued by the Ohio State University as an aid to teachers. It contains a full course of study in English for a high school, with many helpful suggestions as to methods, books, and reference works.

AN *American Citizen Series*, edited by Dr. Albert Bushnell Hart, is announced by Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co. In this series, instead of treating the history of the United States consecutively, several phases of the political, economic, and social life of the nation will be taken up separately.

MESSRS. LEACH, SHEWELL & SANBORN have recently issued *The Story of Turnus* from Aen. VII-XII, by Dr. Moses Slaughter, of the University of Wisconsin; *Viri Romæ*, selections, by G. M. Whicher, A.M., Packer Collegiate Institute; *Livy, Book I*, by Dr. John K. Lord, Dartmouth College; *Eutropius*, selections, by Dr. Victor S. Clark.

THE *Sunday School Times* announces for the coming year a series of articles on the lives of the world's greatest educators and teachers, which will be contributed to, among others, by Sir Joshua Fitch (late Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Training Colleges), H. Courthope Bowen, M.A., General John Eaton, and Professors Drs. Nicholas Murray Butler and Charles H. Thurber.

WE can heartily commend to students, journalists, and all other people who desire to keep well informed on current events and to keep in their libraries a full record of contemporary history, the quarterly publication entitled *Current History*. In many ways this work is unique. It comes in the form of a magazine of about 250 pages, excellently printed and abun-

dantly illustrated ; but is really a serial work of reference designed to be permanently bound and added to the library shelves.

THE addresses and proceedings of the Buffalo meeting of the N. E. A., just issued in handsome form by Secretary Irwin Shepard, makes one of the most valuable pedagogical volumes of the year, worth much more than the cost of membership. The printing, done this year by the University of Chicago Press, shows a marked improvement over the preceding volumes. The secretary has just issued a bulletin containing a price list of all the volumes of proceedings and of the reports of the Committee of Ten and the Committee of Fifteen.

THE November issue of the *Kindergarten Magazine* devotes some thirty pages to a well-illustrated article on the new Chicago Normal Training School. What is now known as the Chicago Normal School has been known for years as the Cook County Normal School, or often Colonel Parker's Training School, and is famous for the quality of work done under its faculty. The historic value of such an article cannot be overestimated, and the *Kindergarten Magazine* deserves commendation for keeping a record of all that will be valuable in the next century.

AN important feature of *Harper's Magazine* for several months to come will be Poultney Bigelow's series of papers on the "White Man's Africa," treating in a thoroughly popular way the new continent recently opened up to European exploitation. The series is the result of a journey to South Africa undertaken by Mr. Bigelow for *Harper's Magazine*, and is illustrated from photographs specially made for the purpose. The second part of the late George du Maurier's new novel, *The Martian*, will be given, and will continue the delightful picture of schoolboy life in Paris a generation ago, with which the story opens.

WHY does the December *Review of Reviews* have three leading articles on educational subjects? The answer must be that the public is interested, for Dr. Shaw knows the public feeling as well as any man. Therefore it is a distinct sign of professional progress, and a bow of promise to teachers, this number of the *Review of Reviews*, with "The Kindergarten Age," by Hezekiah Butterworth, "Child Study in the Training of Teachers," by E. A. Kirkpatrick, and "The Sunday Schools; their Shortcomings and their Great Opportunity," by President Walter L. Hervey, among the leading articles. The last is remarkably timely, suggestive and needed.

FRIENDS of education everywhere will hear with pleasure and encouragement that the people of Wisconsin have voted by an enormous majority to fix the salary of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction at \$1200 a year. This was the amount provided in the State Constitution adopted nearly fifty

years ago ; but at the recent election some inconsiderate people of iconoclastic tendencies proposed an amendment fixing the salary at \$3000 a year. The people, however,—and the majority was largest in the most intelligent districts,—very properly and wisely concluded that what was good enough for their fathers was good enough for them, and the amendment was heartily defeated. Congratulations to Wisconsin on its magnificent stand for economy, and the unsurpassed courage with which it faces to the rear.

A draft of a bill to establish a State Library Commission will be presented to the Illinois State Library Association at its next meeting, to be held at Springfield, January 20, 1897. Legislators, teachers, and all persons interested in library extension are urged to attend and join in the discussion. A State Library Commission is a small board of unsalaried officers, appointed by the governor for a term of years, to promote the establishment of free public libraries, and to give advice, when asked, in regard to selection of books, cataloguing and administration of libraries in the state. The purpose of this movement is admirable, but on general principles we are opposed to entrusting important public interests to unsalaried boards. We hope the State Library Association may see its way to recommending a plan more like that followed by the regents of the University of the State of New York.

Graduate Courses, 1896-7, an important handbook for all persons interested in advanced courses in American universities, has recently appeared. The publication is authorized by the Federation of Graduate Clubs, and is edited by a corps of twenty-four graduate students, under the direction of C. A. Duniway, of the Harvard Graduate School. The plan of the handbook is to present full lists of courses for graduate students to be offered in 1896-7 by twenty-four of the leading universities and colleges. In addition to lists of courses, the reader will find succinct statements of the academic careers of professors and instructors; special facilities in the various departments; requirements for advanced degrees and for admission to graduate standing; fees exacted of graduate students; fellowships and scholarships open to such students, and many other valuable details. The work is published by Leach, Shewell & Sanborn, at 30 cents, postpaid.

DURING 1897 the *Atlantic Monthly* will publish, in addition to technical educational studies, articles treating of these important phases of educational work: "The Place of the Public School," in typical communities where the life of the community centers about the school; in these communities the public school has in many respects the ideal attitude to the life about it. There will appear also articles conveying thorough studies of certain great popular educational forces or agencies, such as: "The Chautauqua Movement,"—what it has contributed to the intellectual development of the masses; "The National Educational Association,"—what measure it gives of

the rise in the dignity and in the efficiency of public school teachers; "The Extension of the Use of Libraries,"—the part they play, in the new era of library development, in the cultivation of the masses. President D. C. Gilman, of the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, and president of the board of trustees of "The Peabody Educational Fund," will write of the use made of this great benefaction. "Teachers' Pensions" will be thoroughly considered in an early number, from the points of view of the teacher and of the public.

THAT St. Paul appreciates its loss and Newark's gain by the transfer of Superintendent Gilbert to the latter city, is sufficiently indicated in the following extract from the *St. Paul Globe*:

"Rarely has any man received from the community in which he labored for years such a tribute as was paid to Mr. C. B. Gilbert last evening by the people of this city. The severance of his long connection with our public school system, made necessary by his removal to Newark, N. J., was the occasion of a public demonstration as unusual as it was marked by deep feeling and earnestness. It is true that no words that might be spoken and no honor that might be conferred could adequately express the great debt which the people of St. Paul owe to the man whose services they have lost. He is one of the foremost educators in the United States. He is a thinker and an originator as well. He takes the broadest and noblest views of his chosen profession, and he has both unlimited personal enthusiasm and the faculty of inspiring others. The rare union of these qualities accounts for his great success in educational work here, and makes it impossible that we shall be able to fill his place."